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Reminders

MEDICAL FRONT OFFICE SKILLS CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

October 21-22, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm at the MSD Conference Center in Newark
To register visit <https://reg.planetreg.com/MFOS2021>.

2021 HIPAA/OSHA/BLS TRAINING

Get your 2021 HIPAA, mandatory OSHA, & BLS training scheduled with MSD Compliance Coordinator Dwayne Downs at 302-366-1023.

MSD IS ON FACEBOOK

"Like" the Medical Society of Delaware Facebook page for informative posts, pictures and events. Like & Follow us at: <https://www.facebook.com/MedicalSocietyofDelaware/> or @medicalsocietyofdelaware and turn on your notifications.

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MSD Serves As Host for SS1 for SB 120 Bill Signing Event

Governor John Carney, Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long, Senator Bryan Townsend, Representative David Bentz, Delaware Health and Social Services Secretary Molly Magarik, Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro and others who were instrumental, came to the MSD Building on Friday, October 1st to celebrate the signing of the primary care reform legislation, Senate Substitute 1 for Senate Bill 120 (<https://tinyurl.com/pvzb98ss>). MSD members Nancy Fan, MD, in her leadership role with the Primary Care Reform Collaborative, and James Gill, MD were recognized for their involvement, expertise, and leadership in helping to educate legislators and administrators on the importance of primary care services. Watch event the video <https://tinyurl.com/3fttd67e>.

Reminder! State Acute Facility Guidelines on COVID-19 Vaccination/Testing Emergency Order Effective 9/30

In August, Governor Carney and the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) announced that beginning September 30th, staff at long-term care and other health care facilities regulated by the DHSS Division of Health Care Quality will be required to provide proof of vaccination or undergo regular testing to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 to vulnerable populations. The Emergency Orders, which contain the emergency regulation with requirements about the mandatory testing became effective September 30th. Also referred to in the emergency regulations is the Division of Public Health (DPH) Testing Guidance. Currently, fully vaccinated staff are not required to be tested for COVID-19 on a routine basis. All unvaccinated staff must be tested at a minimum of once every seven (7) days. Molecular and antigen tests are acceptable. Please refer to the emergency regulations and testing guidance for full details. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/27yap7ar>.

Requirements Related to Surprise Billing: Part II

The Departments of Health and Human Services, Labor, Treasury, and the Office of Personnel Management released an interim final rule (<https://tinyurl.com/d7arx8yy>), entitled "Requirements Related to Surprise Billing: Part II." This rule details a process that will take patients out of the middle of payment disputes, provides a transparent process to settle out-of-network rates between providers and payers, and outlines requirements for health care cost estimates for uninsured (or self-pay) individuals. Other consumer protections in the rule include a payment dispute resolution process for uninsured or self-pay individuals. The American Medical Association is initiating its review and more information will be provided once complete. View the fact sheet <https://tinyurl.com/3cmdbas3>.

AMA Recognizes Health Systems That Care for the Caregivers

The American Medical Association (AMA) recognized 44 health care organizations as recipients of the 2021 Joy in Medicine™ Health System Recognition Program. The AMA distinction recognizes health systems with a demonstrated commitment to preserving the well-being of health care team members by engaging in proven efforts to combat work-related stress and burnout. Congratulations to Bayhealth and ChristianaCare hospital systems in Delaware as recipients of 2021 Joy in Medicine Health System Recognition Program. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/4cfbht7x>.

DPH Announces Start of Flu Season

October marks the start of the 2021-2022 influenza season, and given the State's ongoing fight against COVID-19, the Delaware Division of Public Health (DPH) believes it is more important than ever for Delawareans to protect themselves and loved ones by getting the flu vaccine. DPH is also advising the public that the flu vaccine can be administered at the same time as the COVID-19 vaccine. While DPH no longer holds mass community flu clinics, it will offer flu vaccines at community-based locations where staff are administering COVID-19 vaccines. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/nvdjzdc>.

FDA to Discuss EUA for Boosters and Vaccines for Children

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced two upcoming meetings about COVID-19 vaccines. **VRBPAC Meeting on Janssen and Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine Boosters:** On Oct. 14 and 15, VRBPAC will meet to discuss amendments to the emergency use authorization of the Moderna and J & J COVID-19 vaccines for the administration of a booster dose in individuals 18 years of age and older and will also hear a presentation on the heterologous use of booster doses. **VRBPAC Meeting on Pfizer Data on its COVID-19 Vaccine for Children 5-11:** The FDA anticipates receiving a request from Pfizer to amend its emergency use authorization to allow the use of its COVID-19 vaccine in children 5 through 11 years of age. For more information visit <https://tinyurl.com/u57dzphx>.